What is New in Treating Early Childhood Caries

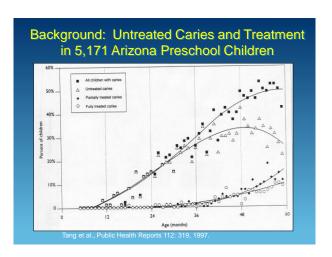
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Purpose

- What is the collective evidence-base for preventing ECC.
- What are the next steps in clinical and community trials for preventing ECC

Background ECC 12 month old 36 month old White the second seco



Background: Cost of Treating ECC in the OR



In 2011, over \$2B (medical and dental charges) spent in US to treat ECC

CONCLUSION "..broader community-based prevention efforts could include further education about diet and dental hygiene..." " ...could reduce the burdens and cost of these dental problems "

Breun et al., JADA 147: 702-708, 2016

Lens for Examining the Evidence for Preventing ECC

- > Clinical Anecdotes evidence collected from observations
- Efficacy Trials interventions under ideal circumstances
 (Randomized Controlled Trials (RCT): Systematic Reviews to analyze evidence from multiple RCTs)
- ➤ Effectiveness Trials degree of benefit under real world conditions

Anecdote 1: Self-Efficacy Enhancement and Professional Fluoride

- March –17 months old, Mother receives self-efficacy enhancement training to eliminate bottle use and daily home tooth brushing
 - -- reportedly put to bed with bottle containing juice, sweetened milk or milk
 - child reportedly brushes his own teeth 2-3 times a week
 - -- 6 incisors present without defects
 - -- mutans streptococci level = moderate

- April -- Self-efficacy enhancement training to foster eliminating bottle use and daily brushing with 0.4% stannous fluoride gel
- > June -- Training Session
 - -- mutans streptococci level =high
 - -- mother reports child is still using bottle
- > July -- Training Session
 - mother reports that child is still using bottle
- October -- Training Session
 - -- mother reports that child is still using bottle
 - -- child referred to evaluate "staining"



- -- 14 teeth present
- -- carious lesions now present on incisors
- -- mutans streptococci levels = high
- -- mother says grandmother giving child bottle at night



Mother given option of preventive program with monthly visits, treatment o caries in chair, or operating room treatment -- mother enthusiastically agrees to preventive program

November

- > mutans sample: high
- > mother reports brushing child's teeth daily with 0.4% stannous fluoride gel and child is no longer using bottle
- > clinical exam suggests that lesions are not growing



December

- > lesions appear to have increased in size
- > mutans levels: high
- > decided to perform "atraumatic restorative treatment" on next visit
- mother reports that child's teeth are bushed daily fluoridated toothoaste and child not using bottle

February

- Caries restored with glass ionomer/composite
- After appointment it was noted that child was given a bottle in the dental operatory!



<u>Anecdote 2</u>: Active Surveillance 3/22/12





8/7/13





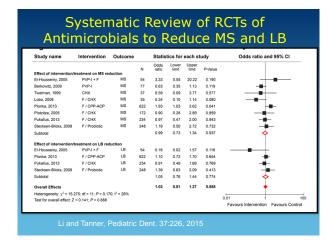
Anecdote 3: Silver Nitrate in a Native American Clinic

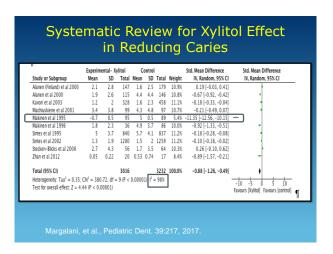
- One operator reporting on 3 ½ years experience in an Native American clinic in Warm Springs, Oregon
- > 75% of children had no new caries
- > 88% of children did not need local anesthesia
- Less than 5% receiving crowns
- 95% not needing restorations

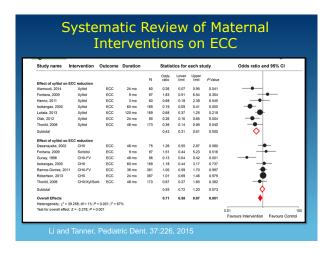
Anecdotes may have information; may suggest hypotheses; but need validation with unbiased/rigorous trials

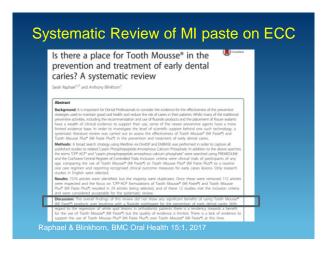
Efficacy Trials

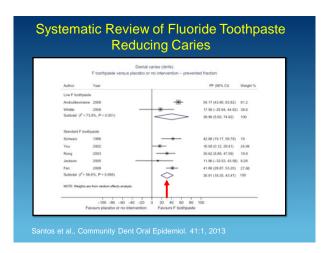
Trials with ideal conditions, generally with control groups, randomization of subjects, and sample size analysis (e.g RCTs or case control studies)

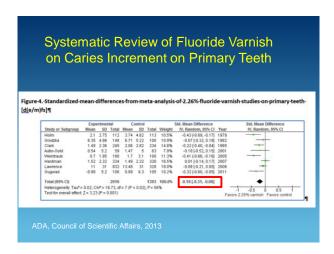




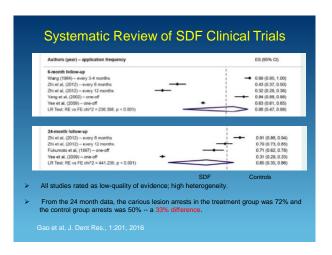


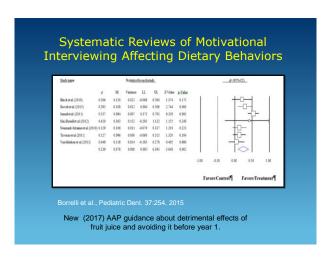




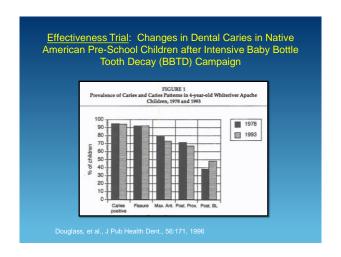


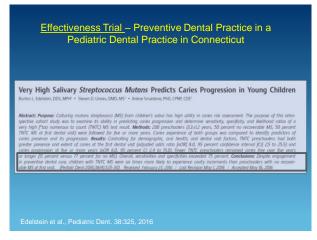
Trials of Silver Diamine Fluoride (up to 2012, English only) Five clinical trials from 1994 to 2012 (16 years). No study is really blinded. Only two studies did sample size analysis (Lldora, 2005; Yee, 2009). Four out of five studies examined "caries arrestment", but criteria is not defined. Two studies found a remarkable mean (74%) reduction in new caries.

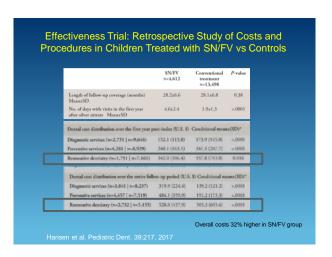




Effectiveness Trials Benefit under real world conditions







Estimates of Efficacy of ECC Interventions > Fluoride Toothpaste -- 30% > Fluoride Varnish -- 19% > Silver Diamine Fluoride -- 33% Note: There probably is a wide variation in efficacy, in part, depending on populations'/children's levels of risk.

Possible Steps for Reducing ECC

- Optimize preventive procedures and measure effectiveness of professionally delivered F (FV and SDF) and home delivered F (toothpaste) [e.g., brush/book/bed].
- Need trials on sealants, interim therapeutic restorations, MI, self-management/self-efficacy enhancement.
- Adopt measures that reduce sugar consumption (optimize food in convenience stores; SSB tax; adjust juice recommendations in government/school programs).
- More efforts with interprofessional/community-based care (including lay health workers, physicians, nutritionists).

Back to the Bruen (JADA 2016) article -

How can community-based/family-based prevention efforts reduce the over \$2 billion cost of treating ECC?

